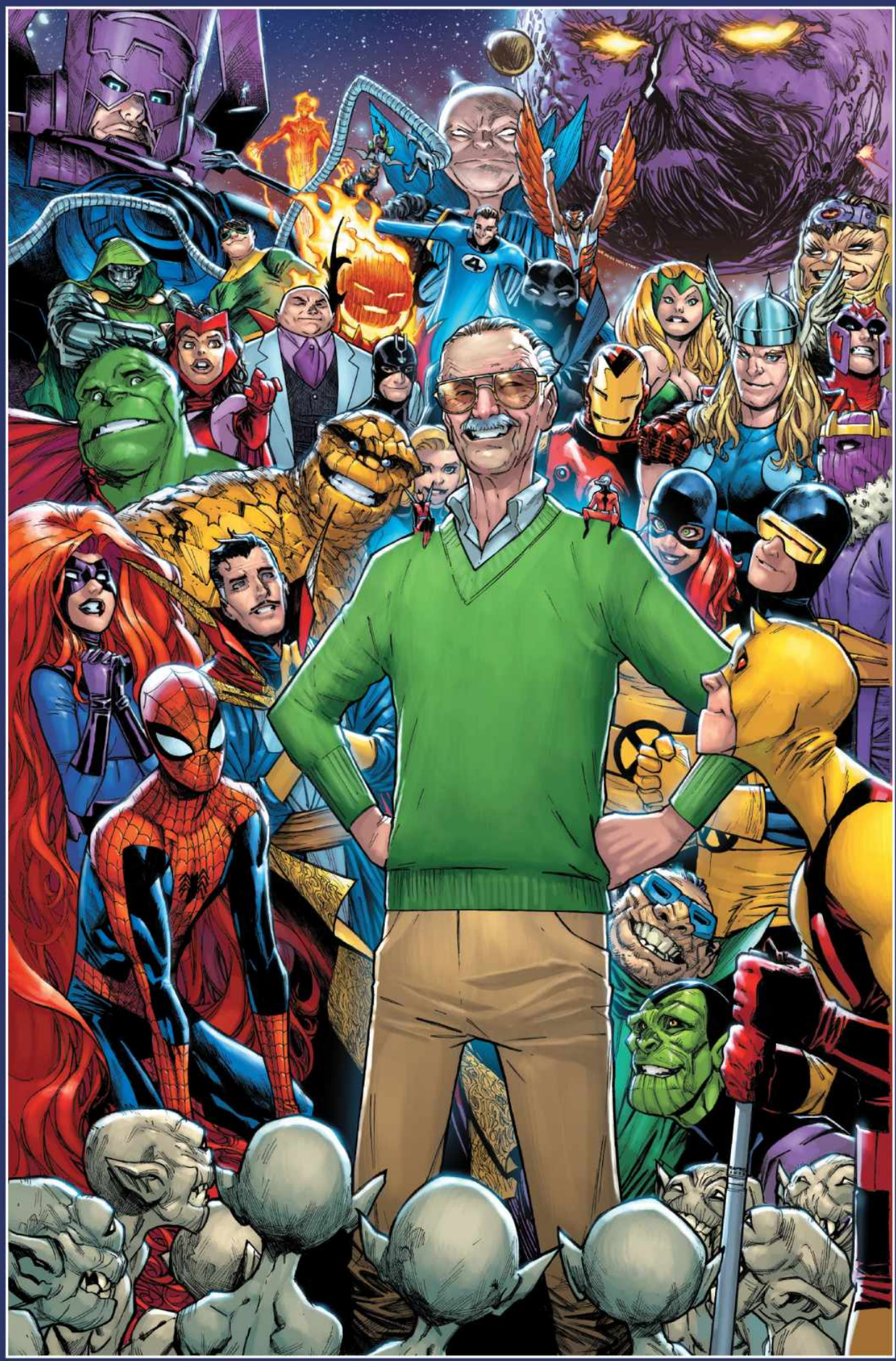
MONICA RAMBEAU
PHOTON
MARVEL
1
EWING
FIORELLI
MARESCA
LOPEZ

100 YEARS AND STILL INSPIRING US ALL



WE LOVE YOU, STAN!

When New Orleans Harbor Patrol Lieutenant **Monica Rambeau** destroyed a superweapon, she gained the ability to convert her body into any form of energy! Inheriting the "**Captain Marvel**" title, Monica has since used her powers to protect others as a member of the **Ultimates**, **Thunderbolts** and even as leader of the mighty **Avengers**. Whatever team she may join or name she may go by, her heroism will never waver--for she is . . .

MONICA RAMBEAU

PHOTON

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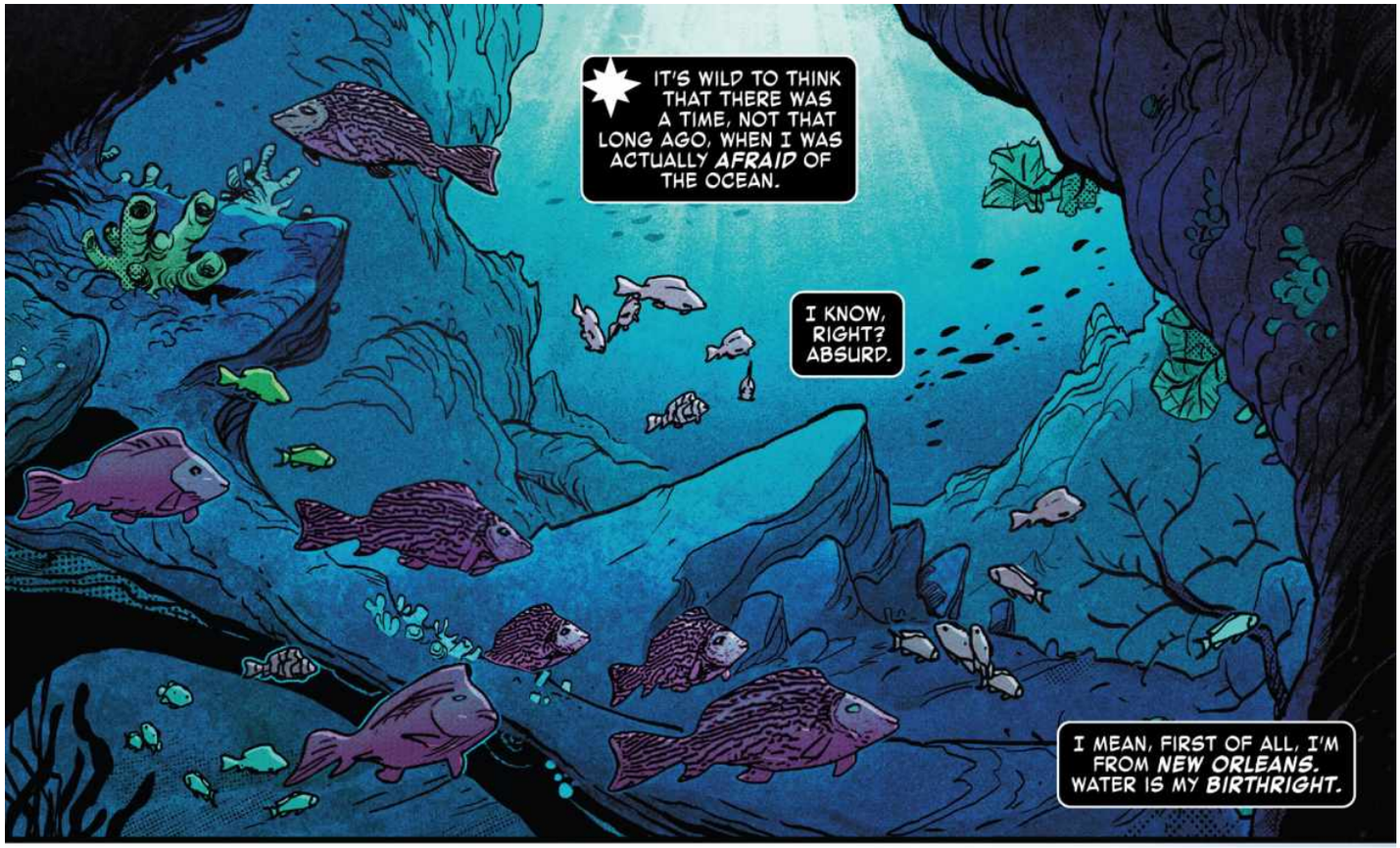
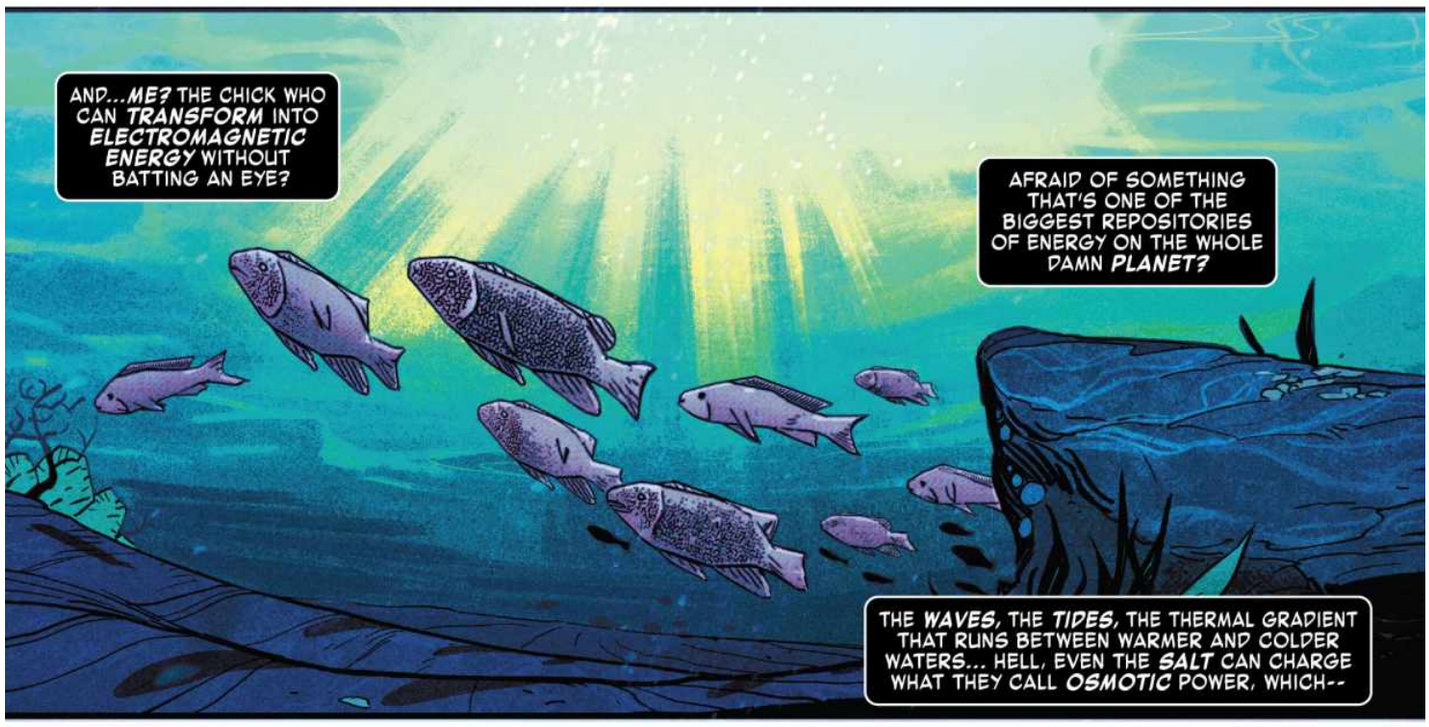
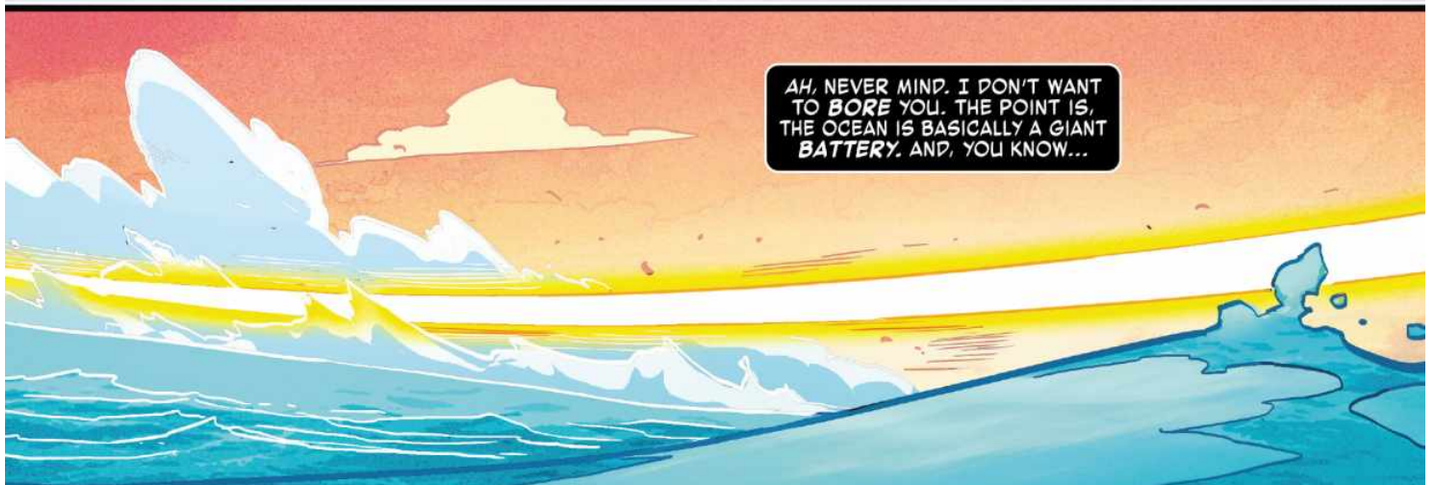

IT'S WILD TO THINK THAT THERE WAS A TIME, NOT THAT LONG AGO, WHEN I WAS ACTUALLY *AFRAID* OF THE OCEAN.
I KNOW, RIGHT? ABSURD.
I MEAN, FIRST OF ALL, I'M FROM *NEW ORLEANS*. WATER IS MY *BIRTHRIGHT*.


AND...*ME?* THE CHICK WHO CAN *TRANSFORM* INTO *ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY* WITHOUT BATTING AN EYE?
AFRAID OF SOMETHING THAT'S ONE OF THE BIGGEST REPOSITORIES OF ENERGY ON THE WHOLE DAMN *PLANET?*
THE *WAVES*, THE *TIDES*, THE THERMAL GRADIENT THAT RUNS BETWEEN WARMER AND COLDER WATERS... HELL, EVEN THE *SALT* CAN CHARGE WHAT THEY CALL *OSMOTIC* POWER, WHICH--


AH, NEVER MIND. I DON'T WANT TO *BORE* YOU. THE POINT IS, THE OCEAN IS BASICALLY A GIANT *BATTERY*. AND, YOU KNOW...

...THAT'S ME. THAT'S ALL ME.
MONICA RAMBEAU
PHOTON

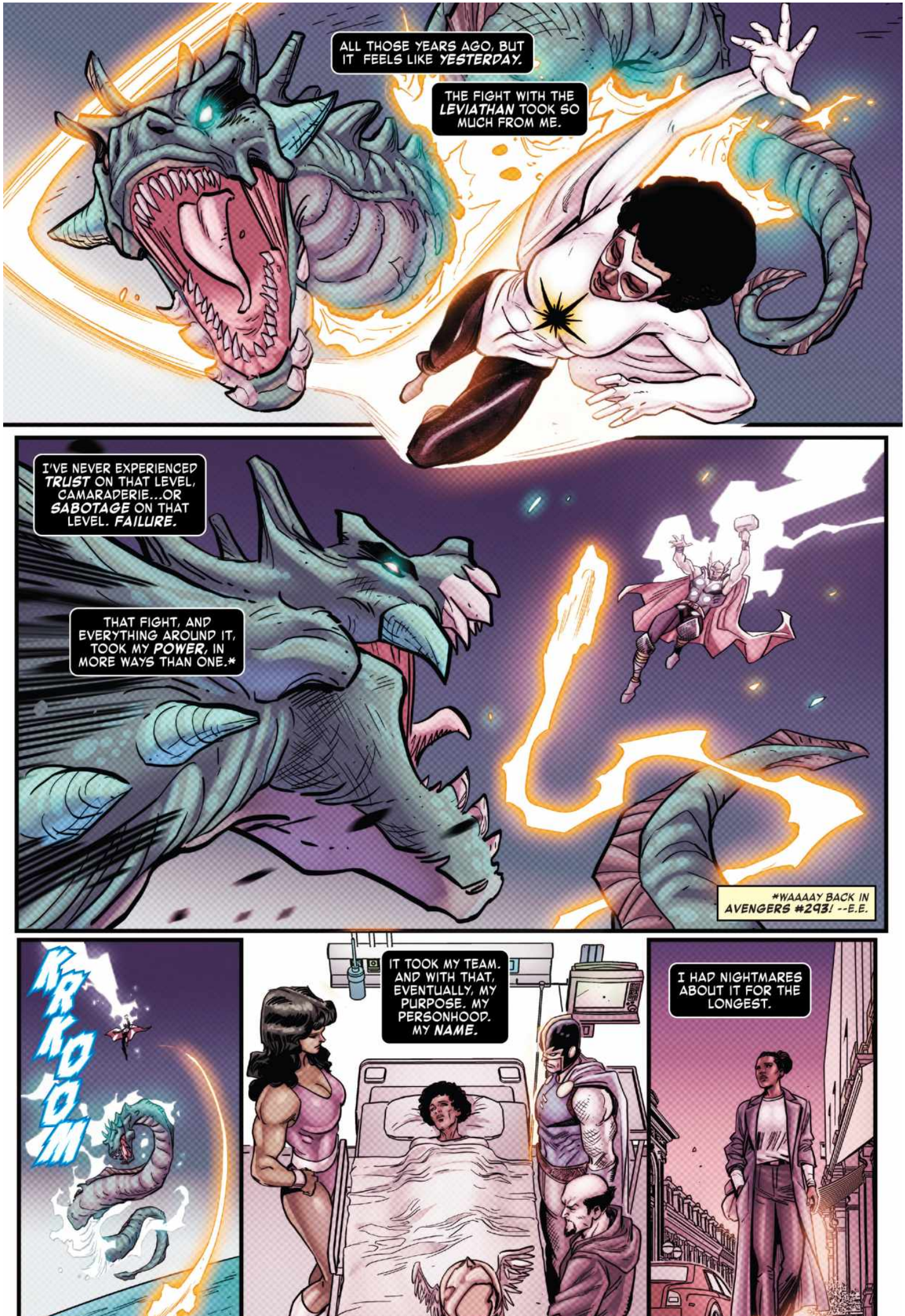
RGERS-HOTDOGS
TES-PANINIS-PIZZA
DAMN. THAT'S CRAZY, BRO.

BURGERS-HOTDO
WELL...IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU BACK IN NEW YORK.

-CHIPS-BAGUETTES-PANINIS-P
YOU USED TO BE UP IN HERE EVERY DAY SMASHING THESE.
NEW ORLEANS HAS SOME OF THE GREATEST FOOD KNOWN TO MAN. BUT NOTHING BEATS A BODEGA BACON, EGG AND CHEESE.
I KNOW THAT'S RIGHT!

DING-DING
OPEN
MY WORD, IT'S CAPTAIN MARVEL!

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, PAUL? CAPTAIN MARVEL. LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.
OH, MA'AM, I'M NOT--
FOUGHT THE MASTERS OF EVIL! DEFEATED SKINHEADS! OH, I USED TO HAVE A WHOLE CAPTAIN MARVEL SCRAPBOOK. EVERY TIME YOU WAS IN THE NEWSPAPER.
WOW. I--
TRAVELS AT LIGHT-SPEED! TURNS INTO UV RAYS, X-RAYS AND COSMIC RAYS, AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT ELSE!
ASTONISHING!
CAN WE GET A PICTURE?
NOW, JOYCE, LET'S HOLD ON A MINUTE. I'M SURE THE REST OF THE AVENGERS WILL BE BY ANY SECOND NOW AND WE CAN GET A PICTURE WITH EVERYBODY TOGETHER.
YOU CAN WAIT, BUT CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY FAVORITE. I WANT A PICTURE WITH HER.
THANK YOU BOTH SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT. BUT IT'S JUST ME TODAY. FLYING SOLO.
AND I GO BY PHOTON NOW. BECAUSE, LIKE YOU SAID, I CAN TURN INTO--
OF COURSE, SWEETHEART. BUT TO US? YOU'LL ALWAYS BE CAPTAIN MARVEL.
SIGH THAT WHOLE CHAPTER


ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, BUT IT FEELS LIKE *YESTERDAY.*
THE FIGHT WITH THE *LEVIATHAN* TOOK SO MUCH FROM ME.
I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED *TRUST* ON THAT LEVEL, CAMARADERIE...OR *SABOTAGE* ON THAT LEVEL. *FAILURE.*
THAT FIGHT, AND EVERYTHING AROUND IT, TOOK MY *POWER,* IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.*
*WAAAAY BACK IN AVENGERS #293! --E.E.
KRKOOM
IT TOOK MY TEAM. AND WITH THAT, EVENTUALLY, MY PURPOSE. MY PERSONHOOD. MY *NAME.*
I HAD NIGHTMARES ABOUT IT FOR THE LONGEST.

MEANWHILE, AT THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM...
DON'T WE NEED TO WRAP THIS UP? YOU'VE LOST, STRANGE.
I'M THINKING, WONG.
WE HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH MONICA RAMBEAU TODAY. SHE SHOULD BE AT THE DOOR ANY--
--SECOND.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STUCK.
LOOKS THAT WAY.
CAN'T YOU LOOK AHEAD TO SEE ALL POSSIBLE OUTCOMES?
THAT'S NO FUN.
YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOCKED?
THAT'S NO FUN.
ANYWAY, I'M IN A HURRY TO GIVE YOU THIS.

THE STONE OF HALA. THANK YOU FOR RESTORING IT TO US. IT WAS STOLEN.*
*SEE IRONHEART #8! --E.E.
YEAH. S.W.O.R.D. DIDN'T TELL ME MUCH ABOUT IT... JUST THAT THERE WEREN'T MANY PEOPLE BESIDES ME WHO COULD DELIVER IT.
PERHAPS NO ONE BESIDES YOU. AND IT LOOKS LIKE YOU PUT IT IN SOME SORT OF ENERGY CONTAINER.
THAT WAS WISE.
IT'S A DOORWAY BETWEEN REALITIES--AN UNPREDICTABLE ONE. GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO GET IT BACK FROM THE WRONG HANDS.
STAY FOR TEA? A SNACK? OR TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON HOW I MIGHT ESCAPE CHECKMATE?
THANKS, BUT I JUST ATE.
VERY WELL. WE--
WOOOM

PROTECT THE SANCTUM!
ODDS ARE GOOD THAT SOMEONE IS TRYING TO DRAW YOU OUT SO THEIR PARTNER CAN RUN IN AND NAB THE STONE. OLDEST TRICK IN THE BOOK.
I GOT THIS.
ANYONE WE KNOW?
NAW, IT'S SOME SORT OF... FOLDING...BENDING... HINGE PERSON.
WHAT?!
HONESTLY...
...DOESN'T MATTER.

THEY ALL GO *OUT* THE SAME WAY.
WHAT--?
HOW DID YOU SEE ME COMING?
I *FELT* YOU, MONICA RAMBEAU.
NEED A HAND?
I WAS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!
WELCOME ABOARD, SPIDER-MAN! WANNA GO FOR THE SIX O'CLOCK?

I WAS THINKING WE COULD TAKE AN INDIRECT APPROACH AND THEN FLANK--
NUH-UH!
SEE, IF I WERE YOU, THAT'S WHERE I WOULD SAY SOMETHING LIKE "I'LL PASS."
WHAMM
I'M NOT REALLY A PUN GAL! AND WHAT HAPPENED TO GOING FOR THE SIX?
ARRRGH! I SEE YOU COMING, SPIDER-MAN!
NO OFFENSE, BUT I DON'T THINK I REALLY SIGNED UP TO TAKE DIRECTION FROM YOU.
HAPPENS TO THE BEST OF US. ANYWAY, WE NEED A NEW TACTIC. THIS... FOLDY-SLINKY PERSON SEEMS TO SEE US COMING EVERY TIME.
YEAH. I'M OVER IT.
WELL, THAT'S IMPRESSIVE.
SORRY. I GUESS I KIND OF WENT INTO THAT MODE BY DEFAULT, HUH?
VWOOOOMM

MOMENTS LATER...
SO, I GOTTA ASK...WHY DID YOU WASTE TIME GOING ALL "MASTER AND COMMANDER" ON ME WHEN YOU CLEARLY COULD HAVE HANDLED MS. HINGE HERE ON YOUR OWN?
THAT IS...A FAIR QUESTION.
SPIDER-MAN! PLEASE!
I KNOW THAT VOICE...
IGNORE IT. SHE'LL SAY ANYTHING TO GET THE STONE.
I DON'T WANT YOUR STONE!
UNGH...
YESENIA?! YOU'RE HINGE?
YOU KNOW THIS MANIAC?
DR. YESENIA ROSARIO. ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS I'VE EVER MET.*
PLEASE! YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME!

YESENIA, WHAT IS IT? WHY DID YOU DO THIS?
PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY, SPIDER-MAN.
BECAUSE...
...MONICA RAMBEAU IS GOING TO DESTROY THE UNIVERSE!
MISTS OF MORPHEUS!
WHAT IN THE HELL...?
MAN, THAT'S SAD. ANOTHER INCREDIBLE SCIENTIFIC MIND, JUST... SNAPPED.
AT LEAST THE STONE IS SAFE. THANKS TO YOU, PHOTON.

A FRACTION OF A SECOND LATER...

"THANKS TO YOU, PHOTON." I GUESS.

BUT THAT WAS $%#%@ CRAZY.
BZZT BZZT

HEY, CUZ. I JUST GOT BACK FROM--
MONICA, I AM LOSING IT.

YOU AND TYLER AGAIN?
YES. I CAN'T GO ANOTHER DAY DEALING WITH THIS. I REALLY CAN'T.
I JUST FEEL LIKE HE IS INTENTIONALLY SO DISRESPECTFUL. TREATS ME LIKE I'M STUPID. TODAY, HE SAID THAT IT DIDN'T MATTER IF I WENT BACK TO SCHOOL OR NOT BECAUSE I PROBABLY COULDN'T GET A GOOD JOB ANYWAY. CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?
THAT'S TERRIBLE.
AND WE GOT INTO IT AND HE WAS JUST SCREAMING AND SCREAMING AT ME. I LOCKED MYSELF IN THE BATHROOM. I WAS SO SICK OF IT.
CALEB...THAT'S NOT RIGHT. YOU SHOULDN'T BE WITH SOMEONE WHO TREATS YOU THAT WAY.
OH, AND I MEANT TO TELL YOU. I HAD A BAD DREAM ABOUT YOU. I'M FIXING TO SEE A ROOTWORKER ABOUT IT.
CALEB. COME ON NOW.
YOU COME ON! HOW ARE YOU THE ONLY PERSON IN NEW ORLEANS WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN ANYTHING? YOU KNOW WE HAVE A FAMILY HISTORY. MA'DEAR, SHE COULD--
CALEB.
FIRST OF ALL, I DO BELIEVE IN THINGS.
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT ALL THAT "NO SELF BUT COUNTRY" %#&@, MONICA.
MORE IMPORTANTLY... IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU DON'T FEEL SAFE. COME OVER.

CALEB. FOR REAL. I'LL COME GET YOU.

I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME SAVE THE DAY!

NO, BUT YOU NEED ME TO! TYLER IS--
CALEB?
OH, I KNOW THIS MAN DID NOT HANG UP ON ME!

MONICA? WHAT'S WRONG, SWEETHEART? I HEAR YOU BREATHING ALL CRAZY.
WHY DON'T YOU COME ON BY? WE CAN--

--TALK ABOUT IT.
HI, DADDY.
=HIC!=
TOUGH DAY FOR MY GIRL?
CALEB--
OH LORD.
THAT CHILD DONE LOST HIS MIND.
WE'RE LUCKY YOUR MOTHER ISN'T HOME. JUST HIS NAME ABOUT SENDS HER BLOOD PRESSURE THROUGH THE ROOF.
YOU GOT A GOOD HEART, MONICA. EVERYONE ELSE IS TIRED OF GIVING HIM MONEY, TIRED OF THE BAD-NEWS BOYFRIEND AND THE DRINKING. EVERYBODY ELSE SAYS, "LET GO AND LET GOD."
BUT HE'S FAMILY. WE DON'T QUIT FAMILY. THAT'S THE RULE.
HE IS. BUT SOMETIMES, RULES AIN'T SO CUT AND DRY. YOUR COUSIN HAS TO FIGHT HIS DEMONS ON HIS OWN TIME.
MY GIRL. I WORRY.

I HOPE, WITH YOU BEING SO BUSY TRYING TO SAVE EVERYBODY ELSE, TRYING TO BE THE MVP OF EVERY TEAM, THAT YOU LEAVE SOMETHING LEFTOVER IN THAT BIG OL' HEART.
KEEP SOME OF IT FOR YOURSELF, YOU KNOW.
SOME OF WHAT? IS THAT MY PRECIOUS DAUGHTER SITTING AT MY TABLE?
HI, MAMA.
I THINK MONICA HAS THE BURNOUT. THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT THAT ON THE RADIO. ALL THE YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE IT THESE DAYS.
MM. YOU KNOW WHO YOU SHOULD TALK TO IF YOU FEEL AFFLICTED? THE GOOD DR. BRASHEAR.
YOU AIN'T SLICK, MAMA. ADAM IS OUT OF THE PICTURE, OKAY?
HE WAS TOO OLD FOR MY BABY GIRL, ANYWAY.
STAY FOR DINNER.
THANKS, MAMA, BUT... I HAD A TOUGH DAY. I THINK I'M GONNA GO GET SOME AIR. I'M FEELING...I JUST NEED...
A RESET? A THERAPIST? A CRYSTAL BALL TO TELL ME WHO I AM IF NOT JUST THE MVP OF EVERY TEAM?
GOOD OL' MONICA, ALWAYS-IN-FORMATION MONICA. MONICA WILL HANDLE IT.
RELIABLE MONICA. AUNTIE MONICA. "WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?" MONICA.
"I--I JUST...

"...I JUST NEED...
"...SOME SPACE."
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT

#2

Have you ever had one of those days where everything is going wrong? Like you're somehow sucked across the infinite cosmos into the wrong corner of fragmented space–time? And you run into someone from your past you really

ZONE